Town of Arlington Transportation Advisory Committee

Minutes of 2/11/09, 7:15 pm to 10:00 pm, Town Hall Annex, Second Floor Conf. Room. Minutes submitted by Laura Wiener.

Members and Associates Present: Elisabeth Carr-Jones, John Lentz, Jeff Maxtutis, Howard Muise, Corey Rateau, Scott Smith, Ed Starr, Laura Wiener Non-members Present: Juliana Rice, Zach Morris.

- 1. <u>Public Comments</u>. There were no public comments.
- 2. <u>Private Ways and Paper Streets</u>. Juliana Rice, Town Attorney gave a presentation on the Town's legal position regarding private ways and paper streets..
- 3. Administration.

Meeting minutes of 1/14/09 approved unanimously.

Correspondence and other handouts were reviewed.

- 4. Thorndike Field/off-field recommendations and vote. Howard noted that the plan provided by the Rec. Commission is consistent with what we would want. He handed out "Proposed Off-field Recommendations" for review. It was suggested that northbound Lake Street cars be advised to come in Burch Street to Edith Road, to balance traffic with Margaret Street, which now carries most of the burden. Add directional signs to direct buses to Brook and Varnum, and bus parking signs there. Also add "No buses" sign on Margaret. Motion to approve as amended, voted unanimously. Recommendations will now go to Selectmen.
- 5. CVS. This proposal is moving toward a permit granting from the ARB. Jeff described TAC recommendations, that a crosswalk be placed across Mass. Ave. between Carey Drive (to the High School) and the site. The Principal seems to favor this as well. Elisabeth suggested an additional bump out or median at crosswalk, as well as bump outs at Bartlett. Jeff also suggested that there be some mitigation at the Mill/Mass/Jason intersection, which is the Town's third highest crash location. He suggested designating a left turn lane and signal arrow for traffic approaching on Mill. At Jason, modify or move the median and have a left /through lane and a right turn only lane. Alternatively, he suggested asking the developer for \$50,000 compensation for these future safety and capacity improvement. TAC voted to support those suggestions. Jeff will draft a letter for the ARB.
- 6. Winter Street. Zach Morris, of 29 Winter St, was present to hear discussion. Howard reported that the 85th percentile speed on Winter was recorded at 28 mph. TAC will recommend to the Board of Selectmen that this area be designated a school zone, as it meets the criteria. Other recommendations to install school zone signage, remove "No Dogs" sign, wait on installation of curbs, let existing crosswalk fade. Voted unanimously.
- 7. <u>Downing Square.</u> Recommendations next month.
- 8. Germaine Lawrence. License plate matching from police. Just starting on this.
- 9. Lahey and Broadway. Nothing yet.
- 10. <u>Thermoplastic Crosswalks.</u> Crosswalk working group is checking condition, and will develop a schedule for which ones need attention this year.
- 11. Parking Grant. Still waiting to hear from MAPC.
- 12. <u>Green Line Extension.</u> Present recommendation is to extend the Green Line to Route 16/Mystic Valley Parkway. Public meetings upcoming.
- 13. <u>Hardy.</u> Jeff and Scott met with principal. Principal asking for parent volunteers. Implementation of bike pilot program up to parents now.

- 14. Brackett. Drop off needs coordination. Observed by Jeff and Ed.
- 15. <u>Dallin.</u> Laura noted that there is funding in the new stimulus package for Dallin sidewalks, \$448,000.
- 16. <u>Peirce</u>. Elisabeth reported that the working group expected to have Phase 1B recommendations for the TAC's March meeting.
- 17. Town News.
 - a. Corey noted recent changes to bicycle laws. It is now easier for police to give tickets to bicyclists. Regular motor vehicle citations can be used instead of ones specifically designed for bicyclists. Other fines can now be given to motor vehicle operators that include, for instance, someone opening their door without checking for bicyclist. He also reported that Lieut. Lake is back, but Corey will continue to represent the Police Department on TAC.
- 18. Meeting adjourned at 10:00 pm.

Handouts:

Ed's Meeting Package: Agenda, 2/11/09; TAC Annual Report for 2008; Letter to DCR Commissioner Richard Sullivan from Board of Selectmen re. Arlington Concerns about DCR Projects, dated February 6, 2009; "Active/Planned TAC Projects and Working Groups", dated 2/11/09, "Project Status", 2/11/09.

Minutes of 1/14/09

"Private Ways and Paper Streets", Juliana Rice, Town Counsel, February 11, 2009

"Thorndike Field Proposed Off-filed Recommendations", February 11, 2009

"Winter Street, TAC Meeting, February 11, 2009

CVS Proposal, various site plans, Google maps, and suggested recommendations regarding the proposed CVS Pharmacy.

"2009 Thermoplastic Crosswalks"